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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 11952 130937Z

21
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W
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INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11952

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, CH, TW
SUBJ: TENG HSIAO-PING'S COMMENTS ON TAIWAN AND SINO-US RELATIONS; CHOU EN-LAI'S HEALTH

REF: A. HONG KONG 9552 (PARA 9)
B. PEKING 1569

1. FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR OF YOMIURU, ONE OF FIVE YOMIURI EDITORS WHO INTERVIEWED DEP PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING AUG 20, TOLD SENIOR NEWSMAN MINORU HIRANO (WHO RELAYED TO EMBOFF) THAT TENG HSIAO-PING DECLARED, "AMERICA ADMITTED IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE THAT TAIWAN IS PART OF CHINA, BUT IF THIS PROBLEM IS SEPARATED FROM OVERALL QUESTION OF SINO-US RELATIONS THERE CAN BE NO NORMALIZATION OF SINO-US RELATIONS". FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR NOTED AT TIME DISCREPANCY BETWEEN SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AND ASSERTION THAT "US ADMITTED TAIWAN IS PART OF CHINA". HE WONDERED TO HIMSELF IF TENG WAS GENUINELY MISTAKEN OR IF HE WAS TRYING TO MISLEAD THE EDITORS.

2. TENG TOLD EDITORS CONFIDENTIALLY THAT CHOU'S HEALTH HAD DECLINED "SINCE ARMED FORCES DAY" APPEARANCE (REF B).
HODGSON

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